

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2 - SB 775

March 26, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires a medical professional trained in sonography to perform certain duties within 24-72 hours of performing an abortion and before any corresponding sedative or anesthetic is administered. These duties include: perform a transabdominal ultrasound, display the ultrasound image to the woman, offer to provide a copy of the ultrasound to such woman and make audible a real-time heart auscultation of the unborn child. A verbal explanation of the auscultation must be provided by the health professional to the woman who is to undergo an abortion. If the woman declines the offer to view the ultrasound image, the medical professional must provide a verbal explanation of the results of such image. The pregnant woman must provide a written statement with signature as confirmation of having the procedures performed.

The abortion provider and any person at the abortion facility is forbidden from accepting any payment or entering into any financial agreement for any abortion or abortion-related services other than for payment for such services rendered as a result of this act. Such acceptable payment may not exceed the average reimbursement rate established by the service under the medical assistance program as certified by the Bureau of TennCare.

No abortion provider shall be required to perform any transabdominal ultrasound if an abortion is to be performed pursuant to a medical emergency or spontaneous miscarriage.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Based on information provided by the Department of Finance and Administration, Division of Benefits Administration, this will not significantly impact any managed-care plans administered by the Division for employees of state government, local government or local education agencies.
- Based on information provided by the Bureau of TennCare, transabdominal ultrasounds are currently covered through its managed care organizations (MCOs); therefore, this legislation will have no fiscal impact on current cost reimbursements.
- Any necessary rule changes by boards under the Division of Health Related Boards can be accommodated within the appropriate board's regularly scheduled meetings at no additional cost.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeffery L. Spalding". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeffery L. Spalding, Executive Director

/jdb